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SUBJ: SPACE LAUNCH SECURITY [redacted]

AS A RESULT OF THE LAST [redacted] WE HAD TO DEVELOP NEW INFORMATION POLICIES FOR MILITARY SPACE LAUNCHES, THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT ON A NEW POLICY WHICH WOULD IN ESSENCE TIGHTEN UP ON THE SECURITY OF ALL MILITARY SPACE LAUNCHES. YOU RECALL, HOWEVER, THAT THERE WAS A QUESTION REGARDING THE CLASSIFICATION OF THE LAUNCH DATE FOR THE UNCLASSIFIED AF PAYLOADS. WHILE WE MAINTAIN THAT ALL LAUNCH DATES SHOULD BE CLASSIFIED, AFRDS (COL CAMERON) BELIEVED THAT IT WAS NOT NECESSARY TO

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PAGE 2 WHIG 6572 [redacted]

CLASSIFY THESE LAUNCH DATES. HOWEVER, IF THE NRO COULD MAKE A CASE THAT SUCH CLASSIFICATION WAS NEEDED TO PROTECT THE SECURITY OF NRO OPERATIONS AND THAT THE DECISION WAS MADE TO CLASSIFY THE LAUNCH DATES THEN HE, COL CAMERON, WOULD ADHERE TO THIS CLASSIFICATION POLICY.

A SECOND ITEM RESULTING FROM THE MEETING WAS A QUESTION ON THE NEED TO CLASSIFY MILITARY SATELLITE EPHEMERIS INFORMATION UNTIL UNCLASSIFICATION. SUBSEQUENT TO THAT TIME, THE SAME ORBITAL DATA AS PASSED TO THE UN WOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE NEWS MEDIA IN REPLY TO QUERY. CURRENT EPHEMERIS DATA WOULD REMAIN CLASSIFIED. WE NEED TO GET WITH ADCOM SPACE DEFENSE PEOPLE, AND OTHERS AS APPROPRIATE, TO DETERMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF SUCH A

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CHANGE AS THIS, SINCE THERE MIGHT BE CONSIDERABLE COST, COMPUTER REPROGRAMMING, ETC., ASSOCIATED WITH THIS CHANGE.

I AM SENDING YOU VIA DACOM A DRAFT OF A MEMO BEING PROPOSED FOR THE VICE CHIEF OF STAFF WHICH ADDRESSES THE RESULTS OF OUR COMMITTEE WORK. OUR PLANS ARE TO HAVE A [redacted] ATTACHMENT TO THIS MEMO WHICH WOULD ADDRESS THE QUESTION OF CLASSIFYING ALL LAUNCH DATES IN ORDER TO

PAGE 3 [redacted] 372 [redacted]
PROTECT NRO OPERATIONS. WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR PREPARING A PAPER ADDRESSING THIS SUBJECT WHICH WE MIGHT USE AS THE ATTACHMENT. ALSO, WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR THOUGHTS REGARDING THE CLASSIFICATION OF ORBITAL EPHEMERIS DATA AND WHETHER OR NOT THERE WOULD BE ANY IMPACT Delete This AND ADCOM OPERATIONS BY SUCH A CHANGE. WE WOULD APPRECIATE THESE INPUTS BY SOMETIME IN THE FIRST WEEK OF APRIL.
MANY THANKS.
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~~SECRET~~
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